

## JUNE NEWSLETTER

Greetings from the great Northwest, oops, I did it again, the Middle East. ☺

The days are averaging 110 degrees, and it is only the first of June, pretty soon typing a newsletter will even work up a sweat. ☺

Most of the soldiers are in Trailers now with Air Conditioners. We are all into our work routines now; we are pretty much on Cruise Control, and very much looking forward to Football season. Why? Cause then it will be time to start planning out trip home! ☺

We have a food court coming soon that will have Taco Bell, Pizza Hut and Burger King. ☺

Also coming is a Beauty Salon, Massage Parlor and a Pedicure place. They say a 30-minute massage only costs \$5. Can you imagine that? Many people are excited about that. There are lots of female soldiers at this camp, so you can imagine the excitement of a beauty salon!!! At a briefing today, the Chief of Staff walked in late, he sat down, introduced himself to the media, then looked at a female Major that always comes, but today she was a BLONDE, and he said, glad to have you ma'am. ☺

The swimming pool hosted a pool party the other day and the line was all the way around the block. Many people are taking advantage of the pool, and the Theatre that shows three movies a day. Toby Keith will be in concert this Friday! ☺ Five comedians were here two weeks ago and were so funny. The new gymnasium opened the other day it has Racquetball courts, full basketball court, weights and air. It is state of the art to say the very least.

DVD movies are the big hobby over here; so many soldiers have quite the collection going. When a new movie is released, it is amazing to see how fast it is on DVD here.

Barbecues are a popular function too. You see soldiers barbecuing weekly and having a good time. Memorial day the Dining Hall had Ribs, Steaks, Chicken, and an assortment of side dishes, just like we were back home!! Incredible!

We celebrate Birthdays often, each company is very creative in their efforts to have fun, kick back and relax and enjoy the off time soldiers do have. I can promise you this; you need not worry about your loved ones. We are making a difference, doing an excellent job and setting the standard for this entire country! Be proud of all your loved ones because 29<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion is by far the best Battalion out here bar none!

The Iraqi School that the BN has adopted is called Al Salam. It is half way complete now. Should be finished by early July and will have grand opening September. Special thanks to Stephanie Pompa and all the FRG members for all your efforts, it really is incredible the way you all have made our school the talk of the world! ☺ I met with our head schoolmaster and told him that this was a LIFELONG relationship that they could expect to get things from us for years to come. He immediately asked God to bless us. It was quite the moment. This community has hardly anything. The only hope they have is the new school going up and the new 24-hour Clinic. You all should be very proud of what you are doing for the children of Iraq! This has become a Northwest project thanks to all of you! The school has ceiling fans, electric, bathrooms, water, bell, playground, fence, and so much more.

Once again, THE BOXES you each send, I see the look on the soldiers faces as they come to pick them up each day, WOW! When your loved one gets a box it increases their morale by 1000%. That is NOT an exaggeration. So please keep it up?

The BC is committed to putting together a CD when we are finished here; he wants everyone to have a CD of every picture that was ever taken. So that will be really nice.

We had a Hail and Farewell the other day...big barbecue, and everybody had a great time. We welcomed the new and said farewell to the outgoing. It may have been the funniest thing we done to date. We plan on doing that at least once a month now.

The Chaplain and myself will start pushing for quotes from your loved ones, and more pictures. Hopefully the companies are putting out company newsletters with that kind of stuff too. I have seen some platoon newsletters, so hopefully in the near future you will see more of your loved ones! ☺

In closing, this deployment has been flawless and is being used as a blueprint by the Army. YOU, the FRG is a huge part of that success and excellence! With the kind of support we are getting from you, anybody could have done this. ☺ That is how incredible each of you are!!!

Should be seeing another VTC in the near future? They are booked out several weeks ahead of time, so many units are doing VTC's, so please be patient and we will get another one lined up!

THANKS AGAIN...we are Americas Corps and that makes you...AMERICAS BEST FAMILIES! ☺